

B.F. Marcos Building
1610 E. Seventh Avenue
Ybor City (Tampa)
Hillsborough County
Florida

HABS No. FL-267

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FLA,
29-TAMP,
13-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20204

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

B. F. MARCOS BUILDING

HABS No. FL-267

Location: 1610 East Seventh Avenue, Ybor City, Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

Present Owner: Josefa and Catalina Marcos.

Present Occupant: On the first floor there are two shops. The first shop is a photo store while the second store is presently vacant. The second floor residence is occupied by Josefa and Catalina Marcos.

Present Use: Residential and business uses.

Significance: The building is typical of many of the business/residence buildings in Ybor City. It has lightwells which provide exposure to rooms on the second floor and to rooms on the first floor. The front exterior balcony is one of the most elaborate of the Ybor City styles.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Circa 1908.
2. Architect: Francis Kennard, a local Tampa architect.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The building is located on the original land allotment sold to Vincent Martinez Ybor, one of the founders of Ybor City cigar industry. It is located in Ybor City subdivision, Block 56, lot 7, east half. The following title records are compiled from Chelsea Title and Guaranty Company, Tampa, Florida.

1886

Recorded July 24, 1886, filed February 14, 1887
Book V, page 157
Vincent Martinez Ybor and wife Mercedes
to
Caudilo A. Martinez Ybor

1893

Deed recorded May 29, 1893, filed June 6, 1893
Book UU, page 369
Concepcion A. Ybor, widow and Edward Manrara and wife
to
Caudilo A. Martinez Ybor, remaining interest in the lot

1889

Deed recorded March 2, 1889, filed March 4, 1889
Book BB, page 88
Candido A. M. Ybor
to
Elosie V. Martinez Ybor

1892

Deed recorded July 8, 1892, filed July 11, 1892
Book NN, page 171
Eloise V. Martinez Ybor Schwale and husband, by attorney, sold
to
William N. Rushing

1892

Deed recorded July 9, 1892, filed July 11, 1892
Book M, page 142
William N. Rushing and wife leased the land
to
O. J. Stafford

1892

Deed recorded July 11, 1892, filed July 11, 1892
Book #1, page 3
Lease to Tampa Lumber Company

1893

Deed recorded June 1, 1893, filed June 1, 1893
Book NN, page 364
William N. Rushing and wife
to
Letita V. Graham

1895

Deed recorded February 2, 1895, filed February 4, 1895
Book F-1, page 198
Letita V. Graham
to
N. Franklin Carpenter, Bachelor

1897

Deed recorded March 17, 1897, filed March 17, 1897
Book VI, page 596
N. Franklin Carpenter, Bachelor
to
Letita V. Graham

1905

Deed recorded July 5, 1905, filed July 7, 1905
Book 41, page 281
Letita Graham, widow
to
Baldomero F. Marcos
(Bladomero F. Marcos willed the building and land to his two daughters without a title change.)

1949

Deed recorded May 12, 1949, filed May 13, 1949
Book 1524, page 31
Josefa Marcos
to
Catalina Marcos, 1/2 interest

1949

Deed recorded May 12, 1949, filed May 13, 1949
Book 1524, page 33
Catalina Marcos
to
Josefa Marcos, 1/2 interest
(The Marcos sisters are presently living on the second floor of the building.)

4. Alterations and additions: Following construction a one room plan was installed in the building. However, the room was immediately divided into two equal spaces. In later years, the first floor front stores were altered to accommodate modern businesses. The windows and paneling were removed and replaced with new storefronts. The rear stairway was also removed.

- B. Historical Context: The first floor has been leased to several businesses. The Bank of Ybor City leased the first floor from 1909 to 1924. "La France", an exclusive shoe store in Ybor City, leased one of the stores from the 1930s until 1973. In the other store there was a Spanish pastry store and D'Elia Jewelry store in the 1940s. The Marcos family has been living in the second floor residential quarters since the building's construction.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The distinctive feature of the building is its balcony with its decorative oval iron work.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The two-story rectangular building measures 35' x 90' and is 31' high. The front (south) elevation is five bays.
2. Foundation: Brick.
3. Walls: Side and rear walls are common brick with headers at every seventh course. Front wall is deep red face brick. Pilasters run on each side of the facade topped with corbeled caps with corbeled brick pendants. The pediment is decorated with a flush brick dentil motif. Above this runs a corbeled brick dentil band. Above this band are the letters "B. F. MARCOS" in brass. The top of the pediment is decorated with a soldier course of brick and stretchers, flush with the wall. A brick cap tops the pediment.
4. Structural system, framing: Brick bearing walls support steel "I" beams. Deep "I" beam supports the masonry over the first floor storefront and stairway. The building has no interior columns except one where beam intersects stairway. Wood floor framing rests on the beams.
5. Balcony: The street facade has a balcony running its entire width. This balcony is supported on 3" pipe columns set in concrete bases in the sidewalk. The four support columns carry 4" X 10" girder on floor flanges. There is a 2" X 10" plate bolted into the brickwork opposite this girder. Short beams are framed between the girder and the plate. Floor joists, 2" x 10", are laid on the beams. The decking is 1" x 4" tongue-and-groove wood. The floor framing members have a milled beaded design. The balcony roof framing members are supported on 2" pipe columns from floor flanges mounted on the deck. These columns are braced back to the building with 1-1/2" pipe. The roof rafters are 1" pipe running to 1-1/2" pipe girders between columns at one end and to brackets set in the brickwork at the other end. All of this pipe framing is connected with standard pipe fittings. Purlins of 3/4" pipe are bolted above the roof rafters and run parallel with the facade. The roof covering is corrugated sheet metal. A galvanized metal ogee gutter is attached to the leading edge of the roof with one downspout terminating at the bottom of the balcony. The balcony railings are 1-1/2" pipe attached to the columns using pipe "tees" and to the building with brackets set in the brickwork. The decorative iron balusters are 1" x 3/16" bar stock which shows no evidence of having been heated. This stock is formed into ovals 5" wide with 28" high ovals alternating with 14" high ovals. The balusters are bolted together and are bolted on top to 1" x 1/4" bar stock and at bottom to 1" x 1/2" channel iron. The top bar is bolted to the bottom of the railing and the bottom channel is bent down and bolted to the column. The brackets are 1-1/2" x

3/16" bar stock formed into scroll ends and attached to the pipe work with bolts. The brackets are infilled with 1" x 3/16" bar stock in decorative circles, scrolls and balusters. These infill members are bolted wherever necessary.

6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The first floor storefront has two doorways. The doorway to the upper floor is located to left of the storefront. The doors are six-panel with a transom. The balcony doorway is centrally located and has a flat voussior with no keystone. The doors on the rear have metal-clad fire shutters.
- b. Windows: The windows on the second floor are one-over-one sash with flat voussiors, identical with the door. These windows are evenly spaced. The windows on the rear and the skylights in the lightwells have wire mesh glass.

7. Roof: Flat with built-up covering.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: As previously noted, the first floor is divided into two equal rooms. The twelve second floor rooms open onto a hall which runs from front to rear.
2. Flooring: The first floor has a concrete floor with asphalt tile. The floor of the entryway is terrazzo and ceramic tile in a decorative pattern. Wood flooring covers the second floor.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: All walls are plaster. The ceiling on the first floor has decorative tin. The ceilings on the second floor are plaster.
4. Doorways and doors: The doorways have transoms. The doors are six panel.
5. Mechanical equipment: Electric.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The building faces south. It sits next to the mall adjacent to Centro Espanol.
2. Historic landscape design: The building has a zero set-back from the sidewalk. The sidewalk has black and white hexagonal concrete tiles in unusual design, laid out circa 1905.

Prepared by:

L. Glenn Westfall,
Historian
and
Donald W. Barnes, Jr.,
Architect
Historic American Buildings Survey
Summer 1973

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Interview:

Pizzo, Tony. Local historian, Tampa, Florida, June 8, 1973.

B. Bibliography:

Tax records, Tax Assessors Office, Hillsborough County Courthouse,
Tampa, Florida.

Title records, Chelsea Title and Guaranty Company, Tampa, Florida.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The project was made possible by the National Park Service, the Florida Bicentennial Commission and the City of Tampa. Under the direction of John Poppeliers, chief of HABS, the project was completed during the summer of 1973 at the HABS Field Office, Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, Florida, by Professor Donald W. Barnes, Jr. (Architect, North Carolina State University), Field Supervisor; L. Glenn Westfall (Hillsborough Community College), Historian; and four student architects: Steven E. Bauer (University of Kansas); Weldon E. Cunningham (University of Texas); Daniel L. Jacoby (Cornell University); and Amy Weinstein (University of Pennsylvania). The written documentation was edited in 1982 by Susan McCown, a HABS historian in the Washington, D.C. office, for transmittal to the Library of Congress. Walter Smalling, Jr. took the photographs in 1979.

ADDENDUM TO
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